

## Permanency

**Objective:** Increase permanency for children placed in out-of-home care

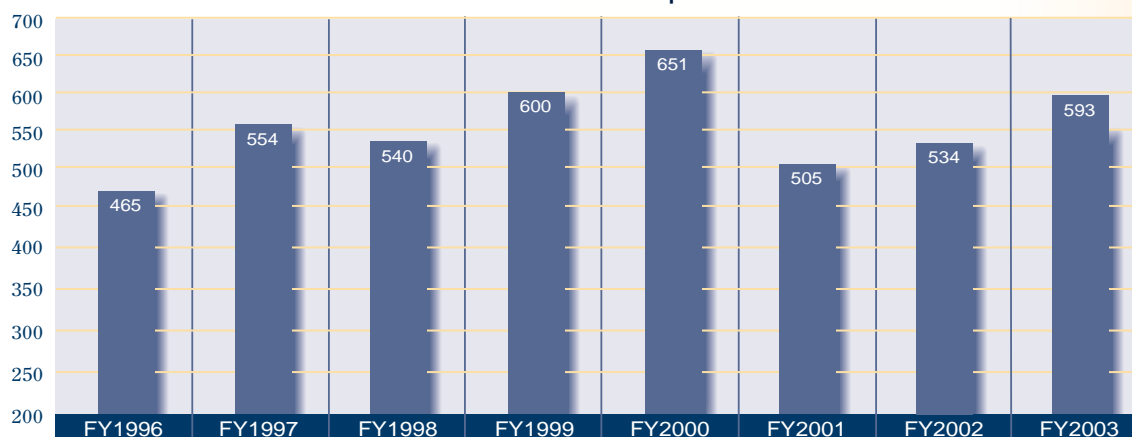
Measured by: Children placed in guardianships

For some children and youth, a guardianship may be the permanency option that best addresses their individual needs. Older youth, children who maintain ongoing contact with their parents, and children and youth for whom adoption is not advisable due to religious and or cultural issues may best be served in a guardianship placement.

A guardianship placement is one in which the caregivers have made a long-term commitment to the child in their care and who are afforded legal rights and responsibilities similar to those of a parent.

In Fiscal Year 2003, 593 new guardianships were established for children and youth in Washington state care.

Guardianships\*



\* The number of children placed in out-of-home care with an accomplished permanent plan of placement in a guardianship arrangement granted through either the Superior Court or Juvenile Court system.

News Advisory, March 2004  
Performance Report, 2003

